

What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing and treating dementia, which contains minocycline as an active ingredient.

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2. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, which inhibits brain cell toxicity.

10 3. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 2, which inhibits the brain cell toxicity of amyloid beta-protein.

4. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 2, which inhibits the brain cell toxicity of C-terminal protein.

15 5. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, which inhibits the impairment of learning and memory and cognitive function.

20 6. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5, which inhibits the impairment of learning and memory and cognitive function induced by amyloid beta-protein.

7. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5, which inhibits the impairment of learning and memory and cognitive function induced by C-terminal amyloid precursor protein.

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8. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of Claims 1 to 7, wherein the dementia is Alzheimer's disease.

9. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing and treating the impairment
5 of learning and memory and cognitive function which contains minocycline as an active ingredient.

10. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 9, which inhibits brain cell toxicity.

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11. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 10, which inhibits the brain cell toxicity of amyloid beta-protein.

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12. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 10, which inhibits the brain cell toxicity of C-terminal protein.

13. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 9, which inhibits the impairment of learning and memory and cognitive function induced by amyloid beta-protein.

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14. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 9, which inhibits the impairment of learning and memory and cognitive function induced by C-terminal of amyloid precursor protein.